

47. The system of Claim 44, wherein at least a pair of storage area networks within said plurality of storage area networks are located at different geographic locations.

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Cmcd. 48. The system of Claim 44, wherein said device is a SCSI device, and wherein each of said nodes comprises a Fibre Channel-to-SCSI router.

49. The system of Claim 44, wherein said plurality of storage area networks and said plurality of nodes are part of a packet-based network.

50. The system of Claim 49, wherein said device is a SCSI device.

51. The system of Claim 44, wherein said device is a SCSI device.

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REMARKS

Applicants request the Examiner to consider Applicants' present application in view of the application as amended. Claims 1-22 were originally filed and are currently pending, and claims 23-51 are added by this amendment. Applicants submit that the amended claims do not add new matter to the current application.

Compared to the originally filed claims, many of the claims are amended to replace "SCSI devices" with "device" and replace "packet-based network" with "first network" to make the claims broader and more generic with respect to protocols



and networks. Compared to corresponding claims originally filed, the newly added claims are protocol and network generic, have proper antecedent basis, or simplify understanding of the claims. None of the newly added claims are added for prior art reasons. Further, the newly added claims have the same or broader scope than the originally filed claims. Therefore, the added claims do not narrow the scope of the invention.

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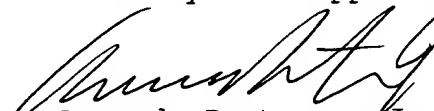
CONCLUSION

Applicants believe the current Application is in condition for allowance and respectfully request full allowance of all pending claims.

Enclosed is a check for \$774.00 for the newly added claims. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0456.

Respectfully submitted,

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